

(b) the reasons for this unequal revision of grades of pay?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*):

(a) The names of the Departments are given below.—

(i) Archaeology, (ii) Co-operative, (iii) Public Health and Panchayats, (iv) Government Pleader's Offices, (v) Revenue, (vi) Government Press, (vii) Agriculture, (viii) Medical, (ix) Magisterial, (x) Income-tax, (xi) Education, (xii) Registration and Achal, (xiii) Forest and Tramway, (xiv) Industries and Commerce, (xv) Uplift of the Depressed Classes, (xvi) Civil Judicial Department and (xvii) Jails.

(b) There is no rule that invariably the proportion of clerks in the higher grade should not be below 35 per cent.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I know, Sir, whether the Government do not think it desirable that the departments mentioned here also have the same sort of privilege for clerks to rise to the 40—60 grade as in other offices?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): Wherever possible the Government will look into the matter.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): What harm is there by having a rule?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): It is not considered necessary to have any hard and fast rule.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Whether the Government have enquired about the practice followed by the Madras and Travancore Governments?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): No formal enquiries have been made.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): I think the Diwan Peishkar's Office and the Office of the Director of Public Instruction are bigger than the P. W. D. Office. Anyhow will the Government be pleased to enquire about this and ascertain the policy of the Governments of Madras and Travancore and set right the inequality of the grade of clerks?

Mr. C. J. Mathew (*Joint Secretary to Government*): There is no question of inequality here. If it is considered necessary the Government will make enquiries.

CYCLONE LOANS—PEOPLE OF MELUR VILLAGE—DISBURSING OF

280. **Mr. A. V. Moothedan** (*Chalakkudi*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether Melur village is not one of the villages most terribly affected by the Cyclone;

(b) the number of persons who have applied for loans from the Melur village;

(c) the amount disbursed to Melur village by way of loans up to 30th Makaram 1117;

(d) if no amount is disbursed, is there any prospect of disbursing these loans in the near future?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*):

(a) Melur is one of the villages in Mukundapuram Taluk greatly affected by the Cyclone, but there are several others worse affected in that Taluk itself.

(b) 213; 142 for agricultural improvements and 71 for house construction.

(c) Nil.

(d) Yes.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): The cyclone took place on the 13th of Edavam last year and to-night we complete one year. Can we expect to get any loan?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): As far as possible we are expediting the disbursement of the loan.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): To-night we are completing one year after the cyclone. Can we get any loan? That is a simple question. You say "yes" or "no".

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): The matter is being expedited.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): When was the last application received?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): I want notice.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): May I know the total amount disbursed till now in the whole State?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): Rs. 2,34,016.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*): Are there other villages where loans have not been given?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (Ezhuvas-Talappalli): That is a solace to these people. What is the balance of the amount which has been allotted for this purpose?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): Rs. 1,65,984.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): Are not these loans disbursed through Tahsildars?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): Yes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): Cannot the Government ask these Tahsildars to expedite it?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): We are asking them.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (Ezhuvas-Talappalli): Are there not special officers who are asked to make these enquiries?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): Yes. There is a special relief officer.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (Ezhuvas-Talappalli): Are there not Inspectors and clerks attached to his office?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): The matter has to be clearly proved into. The Government cannot give loans to everybody. The solvency of the applicants and such other matters have to be considered. There are several villages also. We cannot disburse the amounts to all the villages at the same time.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): Are these villages in the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): In the other taluks also.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (Ezhuvas-Talappalli): Is the Head of the Revenue Department satisfied that he has done his duties expeditiously in the matter?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): Because one man has a duty it does not mean that he must do it then and there. Necessary enquiries have to be made.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (Ezhuvas-Talappalli): When the special staff is sanctioned it is contemplated that they must do these things quickly. May I know whether the Diwan Peishkar can say that his department has done its duties satisfactorily?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): Yes.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): If the existing staff is not sufficient, will the Government be pleased to consider the entertainment of more hands?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (Trichur-South): May I know whether the amount applied for will be very many times more than the amount set apart for disbursement?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): Yes. But the whole amount applied for is not always given.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (Trichur-South): My submission is because of want of expedition with regard to these applications they will be prejudiced. There will not be enough money.

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): Only in deserving cases the amount is paid.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (Trichur-South): Suppose there is no allotment?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): In such cases the Government will be moved in the matter.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (Ezhuvas-Talappalli): When will they complete this work?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): It is not possible to say.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (Vadakkancheri): What was the time, approximately at least, within which Government expected to disburse the amounts?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): The only thing that was in contemplation was to expedite the whole matter. No definite time was fixed.

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal (Vadakkancheri): The Government should have fixed some point of time within which these loans should be disbursed.

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): I think the only thing that would have been in the contemplation of the Government was that the loans should be disbursed as soon as possible.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (Adur): Is it the position of the Government that no time was fixed when the staff was appointed?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): The period of the staff has been extended till the end of the year.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (Adur): Was the period of this office fixed?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (Offg. Diwan Peishkar): It only means that it must close before the end of the year if possible.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (Adur): Is it correct to say that this period has been further extended?

- Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.
- Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): It was fixed once. Afterwards it was extended.
- Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): Yes.
- Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar (*Trippunittura*): May I know the number of applications received?
- Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): House Loans.....17698. Amount sanctioned Rs. 1,25,000. Agricultural Loans....14043. Amount sanctioned....Rs. 1,75,000.
- Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar (*Trippunittura*): What was the last date for the receipt of applications?
- Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): I think it was Vrischigam. I am not certain.
- Mr. M. L. Joseph (*Latin-Christians-Cranganur*): Are we to understand that the Special Relief Officer was appointed to give a sort of relief to the officer concerned (*Laughter*).
- Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): When does the Government expect that the work will be closed.
- Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): By the close of the year.
- Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Has the Government issued instructions to that effect?
- Mr. P. V. Raphael (*Comptroller of Finance and Accounts*): Government have issued definite orders that no further extensions will be given.
- Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): When did the first period expire?
- Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*): By the end of Makaram.

COMMANDEERING OF PADDY—SUGGESTIONS FOR—ARTICLE IN THE COCHIN ARGUS

281. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will Government be pleased to State.—
(a) whether the Government has noted in column 3 on page 3 of "The Cochin Argus" dated 17th January 1942, under the caption "Paddy to be commandeered"—(News and Notes), a Press statement issued by Mr. K. R. Viswambharan, Leader of the Progressive Party in this Council;

(b) if so whether the Government has taken any steps to stock all the paddy available from sources pointed out in that Press statement;

(c) the probable quantity of paddy that could be commandeered?

Mr. M. Raman Menon (*Offg. Diwan Peishkar*):

(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) The information is being gathered.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): In answer to sub-division (b) it is stated "the matter is under consideration". May I know at what stage the matter stands now?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (*Secretary to Government*): With regard to the purchase of paddy the Government have no idea at present to buy paddy. They had an idea to purchase rice from the Merchants. 40,000 bags of rice were purchased. The question of buying paddy was never raised.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): What exactly was the substance of this article?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (*Secretary to Government*): I want notice because I have not read it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know whether the Government have got any definite information with regard to the quantity that is in Mattancheri and Trichur?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (*Secretary to Government*): Yes. Every week and almost every day we get information.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know whether there is any circular that to export rice or paddy to British India or Travancore permission ought to be obtained?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (*Secretary to Government*): There is no ban.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): They can transport goods as they like?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (*Secretary to Government*): This port serves a good deal of the West Coast and South India.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan (*Ezhuvas-Talappalli*): May I know whether the Government have taken any steps to see that the paddy of the estates which the Government are managing are not sent outside?

Rama Varmha Tampuran (*Secretary to Government*): They can take action so far as their estates are concerned. But that question has not been actively considered. But the estates